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2 On Casper and the Angels a new TV show, Casper is a (a) Garbage collector (b) Dogcatcher (c) Circus clown (d) Guardian Angel	7 Flash Gordon is a superhero who becomes stranded (a) On the New Jersey coast (b) On a raft (c) On the Planet Mongo (d) In a candy factory
3. In Fred and Barney Meet the Thing, the huge orange- colored Thing turns into a (a) Robot (b) Girl	8. The world famous Godzilla is a (a) Giant frog (b) Green ape (c) Flying fish (d) Big reptile
(c) Mailman (d) Teenager 4 On Saturday morning Sept 8 Fred and Barney get stranded on an island with a	9. "See Jonny Quest!" A quest is (a) A search (b) A frisbee (c) Someone who comes to dinner (d) An inquiry
(a) ☐ Mermaid (b) ☐ Ice cream cone (c) ☐ Werewolf (d) ☐ Giant Lizard	10. The one-and-only Jetsons are (a) □ Birds (b) □ A family (c) □ An organization (d) □ Racetrack drivers
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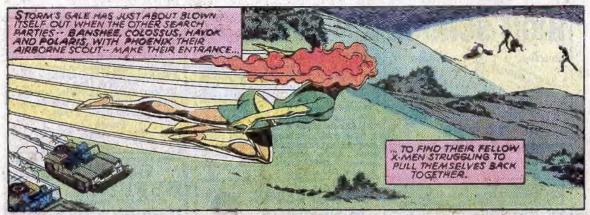






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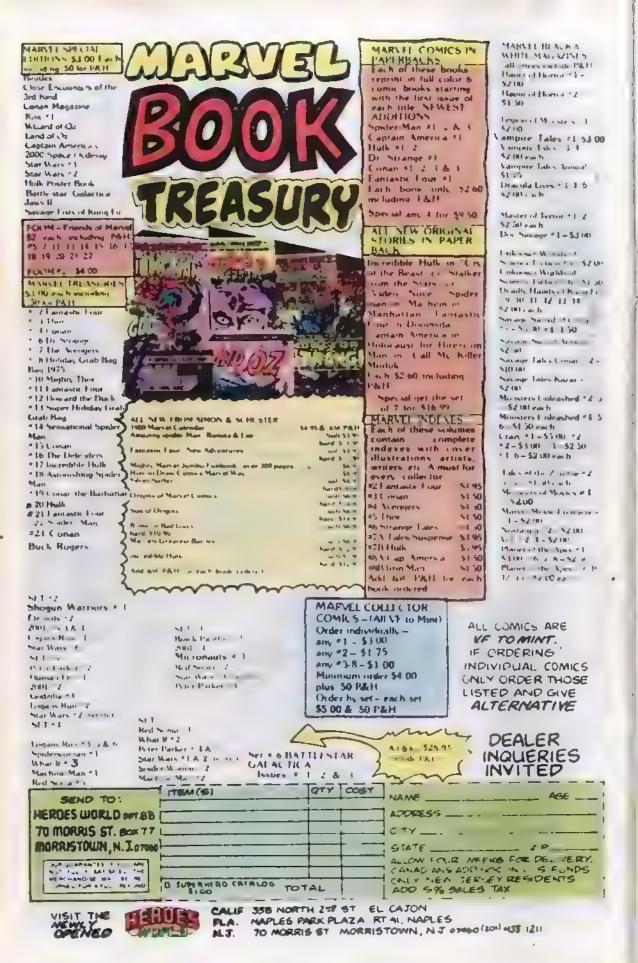




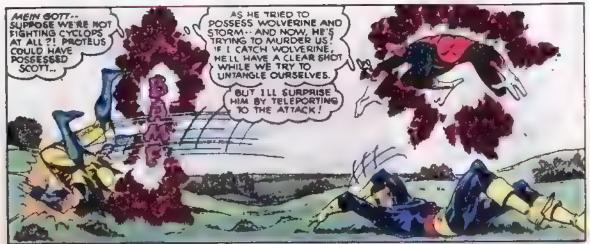






















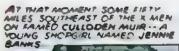














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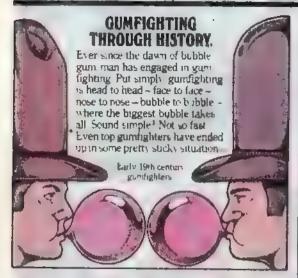








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Notice the Hubba Bubba bubble comes right off the face and goes back in the mouth. As for the bubble gum on the left, those are the breaks.

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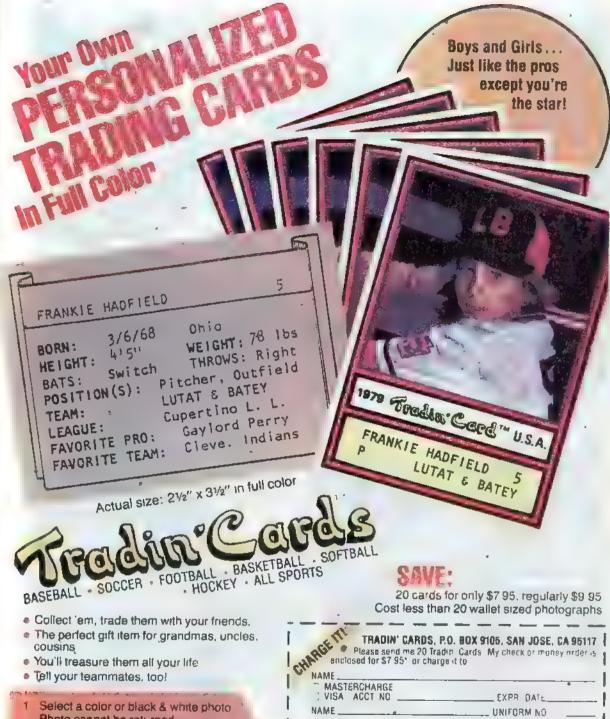
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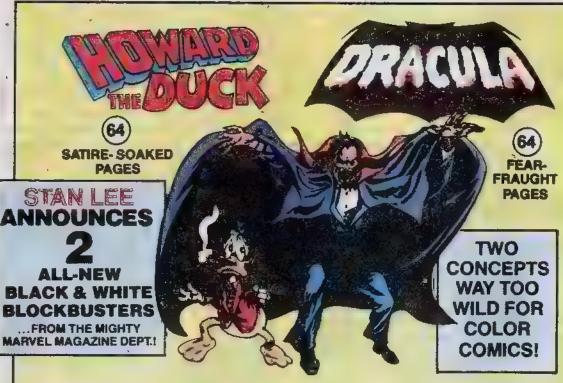
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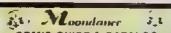
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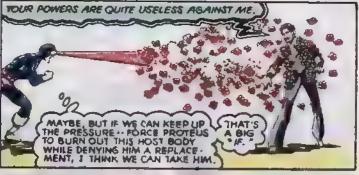














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gang gather round! Don t wantcha to miss a word of this! Here's the first hint of what you'. find in the super sensational, soon to-be-unvailed premiere issue of EPIC the latest and possibly presters maker he mighty Marvel. or anyone has ever un eached upon the panting public!

Even as these wondrous words are being breath track genned. Senior Editors Rick Marschail and Jim Shooter are lining p the greatest names in a stretted fen tasy to launch pur first issuel Hire's a or ick samule, to whet your appet te-

We're planning to introduce an exotir new feature by the widely accia med Rich corben, who libe gracing our pages for the very first time! Also making their dazz ng debut in a Marve mag will te the do by legen far, Brother High tirandr whose theer artistry will make you want to hap up and cheer! In addtion, we'll reintroduce many of our most m nar es sich m vim Startin whose Metamorphosis Odymey marels concerns itself with the destruction of the universe and Ernie Colon who I show you just how glamorous a magnificent distrated strip can be and Steranzo who returns to Marvel scene of some of his greatest triumphs, to often the first feature he's done in years and Bob Larkin, whose torrid and terrific tale of a very special test alert will leave you gasping and Creig Russell, who toys with your emotions as he lets you meet a somewhat different type of dragon, and

John Busceme who once again teams up with yours truly to present a brand new sparkling sage of the Silver Surfer as only Johnny can

But if you think that sal hab! Didn t I tell you there never was and never will be a mag like EPIC? Look what eige we have in stone

A breath-taking preview of unpublished material from the wonders of World I Possibly some wild pages by the dynamic European writer artist Druillet with whose its isn publisher we're negotiating). A this ier about death preceding affe by none other than Alery Worlman and Gene Colan! A time-worp tale with a terr fix twist by Archie Goodiern and Roh Waterial Asia fantasy masterworks by the greatest names from E-rope Asia South America, and the far filing under ground names old and new such as Steve Briserin Arr Sydam Ine Justo Teorge Bush Ray Rin Rick verten and Car Potts

Finally oughtta ment on that I ve heard both I'm and Rick hudding with Mike Kalute Nee-Adems Howle Chays is Jeff Jones and dozens of other long time greats to there probably be even more artistic plums in store for you when EPIC debuts

Whew After as that I you still can t figure out why we say EPiC is destined to be the greatest mad of an time forger the whole thing! We can always go back to Howard the Duck 7/an_

Excession 6

personal favorite is the shot of Doc just relaxing at home - wait'll you see it! Besides the beautiful art, this calendar is stuffed with information about Doctor Strange, his friends. his enemies, and even us, the guys who produce his mind bogging adventures! We figured that pictures of our ugly pans cleverly inserted on our birthdays would add to the macabre atmosphere of the thing. Best of all it's only \$4.95 in better bookstores everywhere through those nice folks at Simon & Schuster And so what if they gave us a cittle help getting the months in order? We would have figured it out eventually anyway. Um what comes after Octobraiary?

ITEM! While you're in the bookstore seeking out your very own calendar you may run across the latest two offerings in the Maryel Novel series from Pocket Books. One of them features none other than the Amazing SP.DER MAN versus the Kingpin in a thrifer cailed Crime Campaign. The other novel features the AVENGERS, the X-MEN DAREDEVIL, and the HULK, each in their own feature length adventure! Each nove: is a bargain at \$1.95, and is absolutely quaranteed not to rust, bust or run around the garage at night! So b. i. them already!

ITEMI Right in the middle of the usual chaos one day. TOM BATILIK popped by to visit the Bullpen Tom as assure syndicated strip for lowers know is the man respons ble for FUNKY WINKERBEAN! Delighted with the opportunity to hobnob with a fellow ran toonist, the beleaguered bull penners left the day's worr as behind for a few pleasable moments. Thanks for coming by. Tom.

ITEM! Speaking of Toms, our own flow Orzechowikii World Class Heavyweight Jer terer recently designed and rendered his first a burn cover! The disc is called Helifield by the group of the same name, and with Tom sidaz zing cover on it it siste to be a chart topper We hear that the music is good too

ITEM! Lots of special happenings are thurdering your way in this month's menage of Mervel Masterp edes in SPIDER WOMAN #20. for instance, the most cataciysmic confrontation since Napoleon vs Wellington takes place You guessed it, friends, this issue Spider Woman meets SPIDER MAN and the world will never be the same! Meanwhile, in the pages of AVENGERS #189, Hawkeye goes it alone against a way-out winged villainess named Deathbird! Those of you who demanded that Hawkeye be given his chance to shine, don't date miss this one. unless, for some reason, you can only buy one comic this month, in which case let nothing prevent you from picking up (RON MAN #128 This issue fee tures a tare entitled. Demon in a Bottle " a moving, powerful sensitive story that will be remembered and talked about years from now We won't tell you more than that. Prease buy this issue or borrow it but samehow some where get your hands on it and read

PAINTING!

ITEM! It has been postulated by our critics that we at the House of Ideas have trouble counting beyond nine, since we need one finger to count with. It has also been said that we hate calendars, since they remind us of our arch enemy, the production schedule. Well ail we can say to that is, "oh yeah?" Just to prove we know our Nones from our Ides we got together the brand new 1980 MARVEL CALENDAR entitled. The Occurs World of Doctor Strange It's chank full of dazz no pin ups featuring the Master of the Mystic Arts in the most diamatic moment of his caree batting his deadness lines meeting Eternity face-to sort of face, and more. Our

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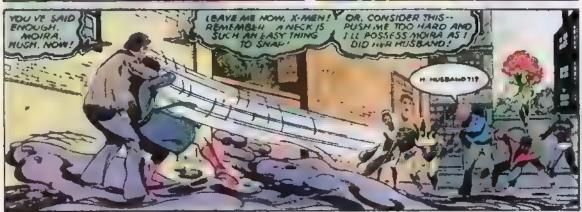




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The Action of the

C/o MARVEL COMICS GROUP 575 Madison Avenue New York, New York 10022

RÖGER STERN EDITOR JIM SALICRUP ASSISTANT EDITOR

To Chris Claremont & John Byrne:

"To God in his glory we two nations dedicate this garden and pledge ourselves that as long as men shall live, we will not take up arms against one another."

What is that, and why have I begun my letter with it? It is inscribed on the cairn in the Peace Garden, on the border between Canada and the United States. I've included it to remind me to keep my temper in this letter, and for you to reflect on while rereading X-MEN #'s 120 & 121.

Why am I angry? Because, in #121, you insulted my country, my people and thus, me, in my opinion.

How'd you do that? Well, I found several clichés in your story, an illogical fight, and very poor development of characters; in the magazine that has won Eagle Awards, I expect better.

"What clichés?" you ask.

Well, look at the titles and civilian names of Alpha Flight. All the titles except-Vindicator's deal with native legend (Shaman, Sasquatch), or the far north (Aurora, Northstar, Snow-bird—Wolverine fits there, too). Ktsk, ktsk, ktsk; Chris, you're type-casting.

Second cliché—the cold winter, no matter where you are in Canada. On page 1 (X-MEN #121): "It's winter now, the city of Calgary braced for the onslaught of a vicious ARCTIC blizard." (Capitals mine.) Now, Look—Calgary is just over a hundred miles north of the 49th parallel, and it has relatively mild winter weather because of the chinooks that blow down from the mountains. You showed people bundled up more in Calgary than in Edinburgh (#120), which, as you stated, is 700 miles from the Arctic Circle. Now be realistic, eh? IT ISN'T ALWAYS WINTER. IN CANADA!! (It only feels like It after three days of -40 degrees.)

Mr. Byrne: was that you on Page 16? Cute. Now, I've heard you're nicknamed the "Calgary Canajan". Did you try to tell Chris what to expect for weather, or did you just go along with the cliché? If it's the second—SHAME ON YOU! Hand in your citizenship!

Point of contention #3: Cyclops. Vindicator states they have government orders to get Wolverine. Now, Cyclops nearly caused an "international incident" by refusing to give him up. Wolverine could have escaped later, after all. Cyke's self-righteous attitude (page 16) showed chauvinism & hypocrisy, or didn't he know that every government keeps tabs on its agents, active and retired? As for saying that Alpha Flight had a lot of accidents (total of TWO), he should check the X-Men's record. If they land at New York in one piece, it will be the FIRST time they haven't crashed their vehicle. As for calling Canada a "intergotten country"— WATCH ITII I thought only bigots took out their anger and frustration with an iffdividual against that person's race, country or religion. Watch it, Chris; you're skating on very thin ice there.

Why am I angry about these clichés and mistakes? Because, with a Canadian as co-plotter, they shouldn't have been there. Because you could have gone down to the United Nations to get any information needed. Because, for two nations that share 90% of the continent, speak the same language, and haven't had any fights in over 150 years, Americans—from the way they've portrayed Canada in various media—seem to know little about Canada and care less. That, I feel, disgraces the spirit of the Peace Garden and our undefended border. I had hoped you'd be unique and use facts instead of clichés; I was disappointed.

Why have I bothered writing? Because I felt you should have done so much more with the story; you didn't. I'm disappointed, but I hope next issue will renew my faith in you.

But next time you set the adventure outside the Statescheck your information for accuracy, and forget the cliches.

> Laura Webb (no address)

Chris raplies:

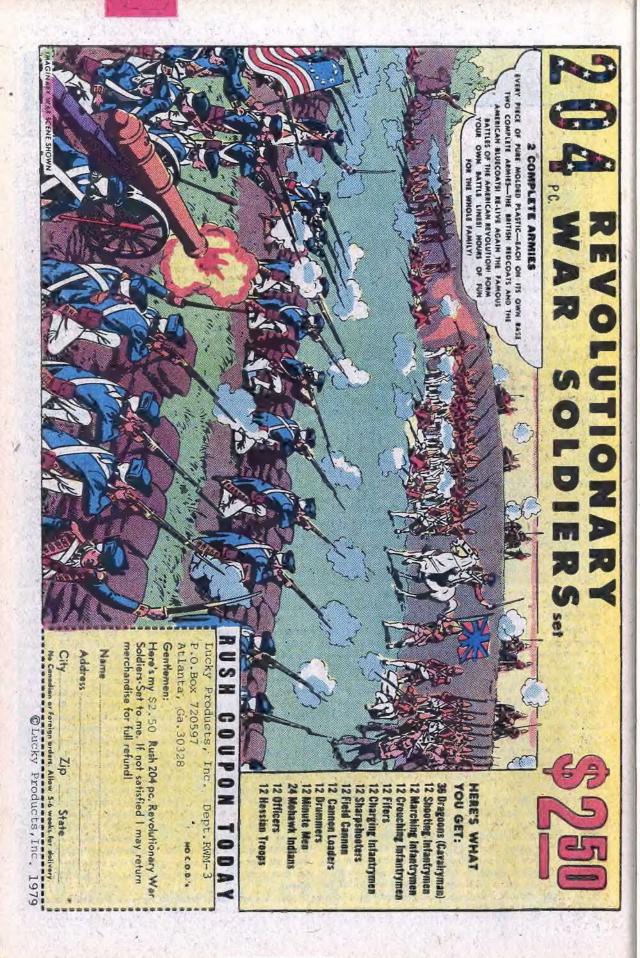
"I understand your feelings, Laura—but, to a large extent, I. think they're grounded in misconceptions.

"The names of the various members of Alpha Flight, along with the designs of the characters themselves, were created for the most part by artist John Byrne—though I agreed with his choices wholeheartedly. As for them being clichéd— is naming an indian "medicine main", Sharten, or a man who can transform himself into a 10-plus foot tall, furry, Hulk-level power-house, Sasquatch, any more clichéd than calling an American hero, Captain America? In each case—save, perhaps, Vindicator's—the particular names were chosen to convey a sense of the character's super-powers and, as well, a mone of origin. Yes, these characters are Canadian; to us, it made no sense to come up with Latin American or African or Polymenian names for them. It is type-casting—of a sort—but, every now and then, such type-casting is necessary, and even desireable.

You're quite right-in one respect-that Calgary doesn't have brutally cold and snowy winters... but that wasn't the situation John and I created. As we established in X-MEN #120 -and re-established a number of times in #121-the X-Men were herded to Calgary by a freak Arctic blizzard of Shaman's creation. Upon their arrival, he was supposed to dissolve the blizzard, lest it get out of control. Unfortunately, both Shamen and Vindicator reckoned without Storm; she took control of the blizzerd, briefly, and pulled it down over the city to cover the X-Men's escape. The combination of her elemental powers and Shamen's spells turned out to be enough to send the blizzard out of control; in the end, it took simost all of Ororo's strength to defuse the runeway storm before it destroyed Calgary. The key point here is that the blizzard was artifically created, and artifically placed. It was a disruption of normal weather patterns, something that shouldn't have happened in that place, at that time.

"I'm afreid I don't understand the 'self-rightnous attitude' showing 'chauvinism and hypocrisy' you say occurred. As for Cyke calling Canada a 'misbegotten country', think of the circumstances, Laural The X-Men are herded to Calcary by an unknown, possibly melevolent, force; on arrival, they're attacked by someone who had previously ambushed the X-Men. They mospe, but during that escape, they're attacked again, and some of the X-Men are captured. The rest of the team go to rescue them. One thing leads to another, and a fight begins. It is effectively ended by the blizzard, the blizzard effectively ended by Storm-who risked her life doing it. So, what happens after she lands, after having saved a good chunk of Canada from certain destruction? Northstar decks her. Yes, 'misbegotten' is an insulting word, but at that particular moment, I don't think Cyke was feeling very charitable towards either Northstar, or the nation he represented. The line wasn't meant to reflect an ingrained bigotry in Cyclops towards Canada—he would have said the same had they been fighting Sunfire in Japan, or any hero in any country. Cyclops was responding to an event-a friend having been struck down in a particularly nasty waythat's all. Not bigotry, Laura-anger. If you condemn Cyclops for that outburst, you might as well condemn him for being

"There's a lot more I'd like to say—but I'm afraid, as usual, we're pretty much out of space."



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